

MINUTES
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES
September 19, 2003

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Friday, September 19, 2003, at 9:00 a.m., in the Board Room of Stauffer-Wood Administration Building at Mississippi Delta Community College, Moorhead, Mississippi.

Members present: Mr. Noal Akins, Major General Denver Brackeen, Mr. Napoleon Moore, Mr. Jimmy Murphy, Dr. Dorothy Nelson, Ms. Patricia Randall, Mr. George Walker, Mr. Lawrence Warren, Mrs. Brenda Yonge and Ms. Veldore Young.

Staff in attendance: Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Mrs. Deborah Gilbert, Mrs. Denise Walley and Dr. Evelyn Webb.

Guests in attendance: Dr. Bill Smith – IHL; Dr. Tommy Davis – East Mississippi Community College; Ms. Marie Antoon – Mississippi Broadcasting Networks; Ms. Marsha Lee, Mr. Don Garrett, Mr. Perry Jenkins, Mr. Jimmy Free, Ms. Peggy Sledge, Ms. Mary Ann Sandidge, Ms. Kim Davis, Ms. Beth Williams, Dr. Lynda Steele; Ms. Magdalene Abraham, Mr. Ed Rice and Mr. Herbert Harget – Mississippi Delta Community College.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. George Walker called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. All present introduced themselves. On behalf of the Board and Staff, Mr. Walker thanked Dr. Larry Bailey and his staff for hosting the meeting on their campus. He also thanked Dr. Nelson for the luncheon at her home and for the arrangements that she had made for entertainment the previous evening.

PRELIMINARIES

Mrs. Brenda Yonge gave the invocation.

Approval of Minutes of August 14-15, 2003, Meeting

Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by General Denver Brackeen, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 14-15, 2003, meeting.

Review and Approval of Agenda

Upon a motion by Ms. Veldore Young and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

WELCOME

Dr. Larry Bailey introduced his staff that was present and described their job duties. He thanked the Board for accepting his invitation to hold their meeting at Mississippi Delta Community College.

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REPORTS

Executive Director's Report

Dr. Stonecypher began by thanking Dr. Bailey and Dr. Nelson for the hospitality that they have shown to the Board and Staff during the visit to the Delta. He gave an update on Mrs. Nancy Alley's health, relating that she continues to improve with treatments.

Dr. Stonecypher then gave the Board a memorandum (Exhibit A) regarding the Occupational Diploma. He explained the diploma and its history, as well as, the request from the State Superintendent of Education for the community colleges to accept students who receive the diploma. He advised that the colleges, as autonomous institutions, determine the criteria for admission of students; this Board makes the decision on which students it will reimburse within the confines of the statutory regulations also set forth by the legislature. This item will be brought before this Board at the October meeting and a decision will need to be made on whether or not the SBCJC will allow the executive director to authorize payment on students attending with this type of diploma. A two-year trial period of tracking the students' progress has been proposed.

Dr. Stonecypher then informed the Board that the Mississippi Community College Public Foundation voted unanimously at their September 10, 2003 meeting, to dissolve the Mississippi Community College Public Foundation (MCCPF) and transfer all its assets to the Mississippi Community College Foundation (MCCF), effective December 31, 2003.

Dr. Stonecypher next provided a schedule for the regional Mississippi Educational Leadership Initiative (Exhibit B). Mr. Walker was on the program in Natchez on September 5th and Dr. Stonecypher will be speaking at several of the upcoming meetings.

Dr. Stonecypher related that the Joint Legislative Budget Office presentation went well. He presented each member of the Board a copy of the report that the Board office prepared, which is attached to these minutes as "Exhibit C".

Dr. Stonecypher stated that Blackboard, the software program that SBCJC uses to host the Virtual Community College, has not met all of our needs as originally promised. Dr. Stonecypher, Dr. Howell Garner and Mr. Jason Pugh recently had a conference call to try working through the problems with Blackboard. In December of this year, we will be in a position to renegotiate a new contract with them or to seek another platform.

Also, about the same time that we were experiencing difficulties with Blackboard, several of the colleges experienced problems with computer viruses. Jones County Junior College was completely shut down at one point. Dr. Stonecypher commended the work of our technical personnel whose immediate action limited the damage.

Dr. Stonecypher reported on a recent visit that he made to Leaf River Pulp and Paper, which was celebrating its first day of new production, a joint effort between the Mississippi Development Authority, the local planning and development district, and workforce development.

The SBCJC office has a new employee, Terica McKennis, who is working in Dr. Webb's division. The Board will have the opportunity to meet her at their next meeting in Jackson.

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MACJC Report

Dr. Davis reported that a representative from the Department of Health came to the last Association meeting to talk with the presidents about the possibility of bio-terrorism supply stocking for emergency purposes on the community college campuses. The Department of Health felt that the college campuses could be an option considered, if they were interested and met certain criteria, because of the mass number of them across the state.

He reported that Dr. Ned Lovell and Dr. Ed Davis from Mississippi State University talked with the presidents regarding a new Master of Arts in Teaching Degree program and asked for the support of the community and junior colleges by way of a letter of endorsement. Dr. Lott has problems with Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College district statute and plans to go the legislature for a statute change.

Dr. Davis told the Board that an Articulation Agreement Committee had been appointed. There are several individual meetings set up to discuss improving the agreement to assure that community college students' credits will transfer to the universities.

Dr. Davis related that he had received a letter from Dr. Stonecypher encouraging the presidents to contact Dr. John Jordan to show their support for the post-secondary career and technical contract with the Mississippi Department of Education.

Mississippi Educational Television Network/Mississippi Broadcasting Networks

Ms. Marie Antoon, Executive Director of the formally known Mississippi Education Television (ETV) and Public Radio in Mississippi (PRM), began by stating that effective September 1, 2003, ETV and PRM changed their name to Mississippi Broadcasting Networks. Their new name signifies the agencies intensified vision of unifying radio, television, public affairs and educational outreach to present programs reflective of more Mississippian's interests. There is currently a network of eight radio stations and eight television stations. While the television signal is accessible to 95% of the state of Mississippi, the radio signal is accessible to 95% of Mississippi, and reaches to western Alabama, southwest Tennessee, southeastern Arkansas, and eastern Louisiana. Ms. Antoon provided folders for the Board that gave additional facts and information about upcoming events (Exhibit D).

Ms. Antoon made the Board aware of a monthly program guide for the public television and radio stations, entitled "Fine Tuning", and asked the SBCJC staff to provide her with Board and SBCJC staff addresses of those who were interested in receiving the publication.

*The meeting recessed at 10:30 a.m. and reconvened at 10:40 a.m.

EdNet Report

Mr. Murphy thanked the Board for their understanding and patience during his illness, and asked Dr. Webb to give the EdNet Report. Dr. Webb stated that the regular monthly meeting of the EdNet Board was held Monday, August 18, 2003. The main agenda item continues to be the WorldCom Bankruptcy process, which continues in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of New York State. There has been no indication of change recently.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has requested input regarding the technical aspects and use of the educational (ITFS) and commercial (MMDS) spectrum. Several key

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points that may provide substantial support to our state network as well as others in the eye of the FCC, are: 1. EdNet is building a network based upon wireless digital technology based on IP (Internet Protocol) to provide one-way video to individual computers and to LANS (local area computer networks); 2. EdNet has a pending grant application that demonstrates the use of ITFS spectrum to provide "two-way" broadband wireless access to a disenfranchised area; 3. The "Health Alert Network," the product of an EdNet/Mississippi Department of Health initiative, involves federal grant funds to address a key component of homeland security; 4. EdNet has, through its own research, demonstrated that multicast steamed video is not yet viable for use on the Internet. Digital ITFS can in most cases solve this problem; 5. EdNet will make the case for providing video directly to K-12 school local area networks, making video based educational content available to teachers and administrators in the same way; and 6. They will demonstrate to the commission that digital ITFS can make a difference in educational and training opportunities to state and federal agencies and to primary and secondary education.

Workforce Report

Mr. Walker began by stating that he was a keynote speaker at the regional Mississippi Educational Involvement Forum in Natchez on September 5th. He commended Dr. Stonecypher, Mrs. Deborah Gilbert and Dr. Davis for their parts of the LBO presentation, which he felt went very well. Mr. Walker encouraged the Board to review the material that was provided to the Joint Legislative Budget Office during the presentation, as it provides a great deal of information regarding the community and junior colleges.

A copy of the *Fact Sheet: Economic Impact to Mississippi Community College Districts* (Exhibit E) was shared with those present.

Program Report

Dr. Stonecypher informed the Board that there were no new program requests at this time.

Finance Report

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert presented the items on the Finance Agenda for information and action.

Upon a motion by General Denver Brackeen, and a second by Mr. Jimmy Murphy, the Board voted unanimously to approve General Fund Disbursements from Fund 2298 for October (\$6,407,546), November (\$6,407,546) and December (\$6,407,544) as shown in "Exhibit F".

Upon a motion by Ms. Patricia Randall, and a second by Mr. Jimmy Murphy, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Education Enhancement Fund Disbursements as of August 31, 2003 from funds 4080 and 4110 in the total amount of \$1,800,912.69, as shown in "Exhibit G".

Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren, and a second by Mr. Noal Akins, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Budget Contingency Fund Disbursement for September 2003 from funds 3296 in the total amount \$1,274,153.00, as shown in "Exhibit H".

The following items were reported on, with no action required:

Financial Statement for General Fund 2291 and Special Fund 3291 for FY03 Lapse period is shown in "Exhibit I".

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Financial Statement for General Fund 2291 and Special Fund 3291 as of August 31, 2003 for FY 2004 is shown in "Exhibit J".

Report on FY 2003 General Fund Lapses and Special Fund Carry forwards (Exhibit K).

Report on property audit results for the Community and Junior College Board that was conducted by the Office of the State Auditor (Exhibit L).

Audit Update from FY 2001 (Exhibit M).

FY 2003 County Tax Support for Community and Junior Colleges (Exhibit N).

FY 2003 Revenue by Source and Expenditure by Function and Object (Exhibit O).

FY 2003 Auxiliary Enterprise: Revenue & Expenditure (Exhibit P).

TYCA-MS Report

Dr. Webb reported that the Two-year College English Instructors of MS (TYCA-MS) met at Hinds Community College on September 5-6, 2003. Great support was shown for this initiative from the community college presidents by allowing as many English instructors to attend as possible.

Mr. Ovid Vickers, the keynote from East Central Community College, gave a presentation on *30 years in the Classroom: What was it all about anyway?* Outstanding presentations were also given during the nine (9) breakout sessions. The evaluations have been completed and were very positive. Holmes Community College has asked to host the meeting next year, and the following year Mississippi Gulf Coast has asked to host. There are plans to have a regional (TYCA-SE) conference in 2005.

Career-Technical Post-Secondary Education Update

Dr. Stonecypher informed the Board that the Career-Technical Post-Secondary Education Contract was expected to be brought before this Board for approval during this meeting; however, the State Department of Education's Board postponed this item on their agenda, and will not consider it until their October meeting. In light of the fact that MDE has received some negative feedback from Secondary Vocational Directors regarding this agreement, Dr. Stonecypher has asked the Presidents of the community colleges, Workforce Council Members and Post-Secondary Vocational-Technical Directors to show their support by contacting Dr. John Jordan. Dr. Stonecypher expects to bring the contract before the Board for approval next month.

Invitations for SBCJC Meetings

Invitations have been extended to the Board to hold meetings on campus from Itawamba Community College, Jones County Junior College and Northwest Mississippi Community College. Mr. Billy Howard, of Howard Industries, has also approached Mr. Walker about making arrangements for the Board to visit. Ms. Veldore Young asked that the Board office analyze the cost of meetings in-town verses out-of-town and report the finding to the Board at the October meeting. Mr. Walker entertained a motion for the number of the meetings the Board should accept in a one-year period. Upon a motion by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, and a second by Ms. Patricia Randall, the Board voted unanimously to tentatively accept three (3) invitations per calendar year, contingent on the results from the report that will be provided by Mrs. Gilbert at the next meeting regarding out-of-town vs. in-town costs.

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Upon a motion by General Denver Brackeen, and a second by Ms. Patricia Randall, the Board voted unanimously to accept the invitation extended by Jones County Junior College and Mr. Billy Howard in January 2004.

Travel Authorizations

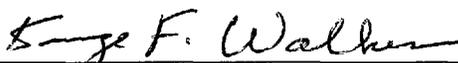
Mr. Walker asked if there were requests for travel reimbursements for events other than regularly scheduled Board meetings. Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Ms. Veldore Young, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following travel authorizations:

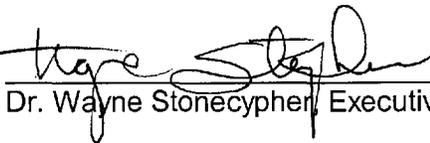
George Walker attended the LBO Hearing on September 8 in Jackson; as well as, SWDC and MCCPF meetings on September 10, 2003, in Jackson.

Veldore Young attended the MCCPF meeting on September 10, 2003, in Jackson.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.


Mr. George Walker, Chairman


Dr. Wayne Stonocypher, Executive Director